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LB 75, 536, 801

to get other bills passed, and because of time constraints and the like. And that's the way it worked out this year with this, and especially with LB 536. Through the negotiations, we had to come to this point. It's especially difficult when you're really committed to an issue. And I think that the contents of LB 75 as we had it before were the way to go for the state. And so that's tough. But we can get something good out of this. And so it's probably the right thing to do to do this trade-off. But I do want to make sure that we don't walk away from LB 75 without me saying that I still believe in the contents of the bill, and that I will be back with it next year. But with that, I do support the retirement plan being presented today through the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I rise in support of AM2141. As you...kind of refresh your memory exactly what this does. Even though we discussed this the other night, I just thought it might be beneficial to go over exactly what the amendment does, and then we can go through some of the pending amendments to AM2141. I passed out a sheet of paper, an illustration that's titled retirement benefit illustration. And the other night, it was in color, but I didn't have time to get the color copies tonight, so we just have a Xerox copy. But anyway, it's titled retirement benefit illustration. And this is just to kind of let you know why this is so important. We have an employee there, if you look at the chart, employee A, who was hired in 1968, is 63 years old this year. Her...their salary is \$34,000. They're going to retire in two years with 35 years of service. And that first column, half way into the chart there, that talks about their projected annual benefit under current state plan \$7,896. That's how much that individual will retire with a year; \$7,896 after 35 years of service here at the Legislature. That's \$658 per month that a 35-year veteran employee is going to walk away from their career here with; \$658 per month. And I think that kind of illustrates why AM2141, or what was LB 801, is so important. These benefits here, I...I think to say that they're low is an understatement. The other night we also passed out a two-page sheet there that kind of went through exactly what this plan did. And I just